

Sunday Advertiser.

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ROOSEVELT ON CITIZENSHIP

Plain Words of Ex-President Have Significance for All Nations.

By Walter Wellman.

(Special cable dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald.)

CAIRO, Egypt, March 28.—Theodore Roosevelt did not lose his nerve in the jungle. With characteristic intrepidity, in a speech at the University of Cairo today, he defied conventionalism and popular sentiment, virtually told the Egyptians to their teeth that they are unprepared for nationality, and declared that generations will be required to live and die before they can demonstrate their fitness to stand alone. The former President had been told that the natives would resort to talk of this sort. He was even advised that there was a possibility of violence to himself. He replied that if he did not say what ought to be said.

"As to assassination," he declared, "I haven't time to think about it." By his speech here today Colonel Roosevelt impressed himself upon the minds of the educated class of Cairo as the boldest and frankest of modern statesmen. The university which he chose as a place for making his courageous utterance is more than nine centuries old, and is saturated with Mohammedan religion and traditions.

Roosevelt Stirs Applause.

The only modern thing about the institution is the Nationalist sentiment among the students. This Colonel Roosevelt defied, and in defying the budding passion of this ancient people for revolution he defied all of his precedents. He did all this and assumed all the risks incidental to such a performance solely because that was his conception of his duty.

The address was delivered in a dingy lecture-room, into which had been crowded 500 persons chiefly English, French, Americans, and a few Egyptians. The Moslem students were conspicuous by their absence. The former President was introduced by Prince Fouad and read his address from manuscript. As he warmed to his work he began using all the familiar Roosevelt gestures, leaning forward and shaking his clenched fist to drive home his arguments.

His words were received with round after round of enthusiastic applause. His spirited denunciation of the association of the late Premier created a great sensation, and his quoting of an Arabic proverb in the Arab vernacular stirred even the stolid Egyptians to enthusiasm.

Some apprehension is felt at the possible attitude of the present Nationalist party, and the authorities are exercising extraordinary vigilance and are prepared to take extreme measures if any manifestations occur against Colonel Roosevelt.

Colonel Roosevelt, in his address at the Egyptian University, said in part: "No man may reach the front rank who is not intelligent and not trained with intelligence. Mere intelligence itself is worse than useless unless it is guided by an upright heart with strength and courage behind it. Morality, decency, clean living, courage, manliness and self-respect are more important than mental subtlety. An honest, courageous and far-sighted politician is a good thing in any country where his meretricious dependence chiefly upon his ability to express the wishes of the population, in which the population forms only a fragment of the leadership, and where the business man, or the land owner, the engineer, the man of technical knowledge—men of a hundred different pursuits—represent the average type of leadership."

Training the Essential.

"No people have permanently amounted to anything whose only public leaders were clerics, politicians and lawyers. Remember always that the securing of a substantial education, whether by a group of individuals or a people, is attained only by progress as a unit. You can no more make a man really educated by giving him a certain curriculum of studies than you can make a people fit for self-government by giving them a paper constitution. The training of an individual in order to fit him to do good work in the world is a matter of years and the training of a nation to fit itself so as to fulfill the duties of self-government is not a matter of a decade or two, but of a generation."

"Some foolish persons believe that the granting of a paper constitution, prefaced by some high-sounding declarations, in itself confers the power of self-government. This is never so. Nobody can give a people self-government any more than it is possible to give an individual selfhood. You know the old Arab proverb, 'God helps those who help themselves.' In the long run the only permanent way for the individual to be helped is to help himself. This is one of the things your university should emphasize."

"Man is slow in the growth of character. The final determining factor in the problem with a people—any people possessed of the essential qualities—is to show no haste in grasping power, which is only too easy to misuse. The slow, steady and resolute development of those substantial qualities—love, justice, fair play, the spirit of self-reliance and moderation—alone will enable a people to govern themselves. In the long, tedious and absolutely essential process, I believe your university takes an important part. Do not forget the old Arab proverb, 'God is with the patient if they know how to wait.' This spirit condenses every lawless act, every envy and hatred, and, above all, hatred based on religion or race."

"All good men, all men of every nation whose respect is worth having, were inexpressibly shocked by the assassination of Bontrass Pasha Ghall. It is a greater calamity to Egypt than a wrong to the individual himself. The type of man that turns assassin is the type possessing all the qualities that alienate him from good citizenship; the type producing poor soldiers in time of war and worse citizens in time of peace. Such persons stand on the pinnacle of evil and infamy. Those apologizing for or condoning his act by word or deed, directly or indirectly encouraging such an act in advance or defending it afterward, occupy the same low eminence. It is no consequence whether the assassin is Moslem or Christian, or with no creed, or whether the crime was committed in political strife or industrial warfare. The rich man's hired act, performed by a poor man, whether committed with the pretense of preserving order or of obtaining liberty, is equally abhorrent in the eyes of all decent men, and, in the long run, equally damaging to every cause the assassin professes."

The Europeans in the audience were at first amazed, then charmed and finally hypnotized by the energy of Colonel Roosevelt's delivery. Such earnestness of manner is unprecedented in those hazy precincts. Here in Egypt they regard Roosevelt as a great orator and believe that he won the Presidency by his eloquence.

PREPARE FOR WAR TO KEEP PEACE

Henry Clews' Speech at Peace Banquet Was Plea for Greater Navy.

In advocacy of the creation of a navy stronger than that of any other power was the speech of Henry Clews, L.L.D., the well known banker, before the American Peace and Arbitration League at the banquet given by that league recently in honor of President Taft. Mr. Clews justified his plea for a greater navy on that occasion by stating that the greatest guarantee the United States could have for peace was to be prepared to make war successfully. He said:

"To secure peace we prepared for war.—Four words expressed the sentiment of General Grant at the closing of the Civil War, and those four words were: 'Let us have peace.' Those will live long after the deeds and words of many of our statesmen are forgotten. When war was necessary, he was ready to fight. When necessity called for the sacrifice of human life, he sent his brave soldiers to their death without a second thought. So when he said, 'Let us have peace,' they carried a glad message to all sections of the United States. The iron hand was stayed by the gentle, felicitous words of our great chieftain."

"We desire lasting peace with all nations. We also desire lasting peace between all other nations, hence our league was formed, and we are working to secure this grand result, to abolish war with all its attendant suffering and cost in life and money. War is murder and robbery."

"To insure peace we must, however, be fully prepared for war. Our State militia must be kept well drilled and well disciplined. Our regular army must be kept in the highest state of efficiency. Our navy also must be kept in the front rank. Dreadnoughts must be superseded by still stronger dreadnoughts. We must be so fully armed that we can command the respect of the world."

"During the recent strike in Philadelphia the police were unable to awe the mob. A company of militia were called out, and being so hampered by orders not to use their guns, they became a plaything for the rioters, and suffered unjust humiliation. Their bravery can not be questioned, as they obeyed orders."

"When the State constables—a little over two hundred strong—appeared on the field, a different state of affairs was apparent. These men were known to be dangerous targets for abuse by mobs. Their business is to shoot to kill when necessary to preserve order and insure peace, and although the crowds had jeered and rough-handled the militia they broke in terror before the leveled guns of this handful of determined enforcers of peace."

"Our country needs a navy more efficient than that of any of our neighbors across the oceans, and if we possess it, foreign powers will, like the Philadelphia rioters, hesitate to provoke us by injustice. We will, in this way, become the one nation most respected—even if not feared—as we have no personal interest in foreign quarrels and would very likely be chosen arbitrators for that reason."

"Our sister society, of which Mr. Carnegie is the spokesman, believes in disarmament of nations. This belief is grand in theory, but not practical at present. I sincerely hope that the time will come when all nations will abandon the idea of war as being cruel and unnecessary; but until that time comes we must take human nature as it is, and not as we wish it was. Our youth and our younger men have idealized the warrior both in history and romance. Victorious generals have died with kings in the love and respect of the people. The Panama Canal alone is a reason for our keeping pace with the world in naval strength. During the years that will elapse before its completion we should use every effort to add to the number and efficiency of our warships. I believe in the most liberal appropriation for offense and defense, yet hope and pray that universal peace may prevail."

"Every nation will in the future study the probable cost of war before engaging in battle. England learned a lesson in her Boer war, Russia and Japan were forced to become great borrowers in the money markets of the world by their struggle. These were object lessons which reminded rulers that armies could not be equipped and maintained except through the cooperation of the money lenders. I know something about the raising of war loans, as I was one of those most prominent in selling the United States bonds in the beginning of our Civil War in 1861. The money stringency which almost strangled the world during the years of 1907 was the direct result of the Boer English and Russo-Japanese wars."

"When our great Panama Canal is opened some of the South American countries may become a tempting bait to some foreign country, and we may be forced to assume the aggressive, as well as the defensive, so it behooves us to be awake and on our guard. As a man takes out a policy for fire insurance, hoping there will be no necessity for using it, so we must build ships and fortifications as insurance, hoping never to fire a gun, except as a salute to the flag of some friendly power. I sincerely hope that the efforts of our organization and of all those who sympathize with us may be conducive to peace on earth and good will to men."

"The navy is our national police on the ocean. Before we withdraw our warships from service and discharge our officers and crews, it might be well to follow the suggestion of our famous Admiral 'Bob' Evans, and experiment by abolishing our police force in our cities and trusting to the good nature of our criminal classes and their sense of honor to be good citizens and respect the rights of their fellow men. When this experiment is made I want a city that is far removed from New York chosen as an example. While I do not mean to imply that the rulers of our sister nations are to be compared to criminals, I do assert that human nature is not to be implicitly trusted where large interests are concerned, when it becomes necessary to give as well as to take."

"There is an old principle that 'My country is always right.' The citizens of France and Germany both had this idea about forty years ago, and it cost millions of money and thousands of lives of brave men to contest which was right; and in the end might prevailed and the Frenchmen acknowledged defeat, but still believed that their cause was just."

"I sincerely believe that their differences might have been settled by arbitration. I would not, however, advise either nation to disband its army or navy until a universal sentiment prevails for universal peace. In my opinion the only way to secure this great blessing is to push the idea that arbitration by friendly powers is the true and manly way to obtain justice with honor for all."

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